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ington and of New York "skyscrapers" which are superimposed upon some of the finest pictures in order to supply a scale, will be deemed by the glacialists to have seriously marred the views on which they appear.

WILLIAM HERBERT HOBBS.

**History of Canadian Wealth.** By Gustavus Myers. Vol. 1: 337 pp. C. H. Kerr & Co., Chicago, 1914. \$1.50.  $7\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ .

Furs, from the days of the earliest explorers to the present, have figured as one of the largest influences in the development of Canada. Nine chapters of the seventeen are given to a discussion of furs and the formation of the Hudson Bay Company. The exploitations of the latter, its methods of doing business, its development into a sort of department store for the wilderness, its tremendous profits and the final passing of its sovereignty are all thoroughly treated. The remainder of the book presents the story of the railroad development of Canada as a factor of the unfolding or uncovering of the vast natural resources. The writer has spared no effort to trace evidence back to original sources for verification and expansion.

EUGENE VAN CLEEF.

**British Columbia.** By Ford Fairford. With an introduction by the Hon. J. H. Turner. xiii and 137 pp. Map, ills., index. Pitman & Sons, New York, 1914. 75 cents.  $7\frac{1}{2} \times 5$ .

This little volume, written by one who for many years has been in close touch with the economic and social life of British Columbia, gives concise and definite information of the natural resources of the province, of what already has been done toward their development, and of the possibilities of future expansion. There are also chapters on law, revenue, expenditure and taxation; social conditions; climate; and labor, wages and the cost of living. The writer has unbounded faith in the future of the province which he thinks will be, by 1950, "a densely populated and prosperous country."

AVARD L. BISHOP.

**The Story of Mexico.** Complete—Authoritative—Up-to-Date. Giving a comprehensive history of this romantic and beautiful land from the days of Montezuma and the Empire of the Aztecs to the present time. By Charles Morris. 338 pp. Map, ills. J. C. Winston Co., Philadelphia, 1914. \$1.20.  $9 \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ .

A popular compilation from recent works, magazine and newspaper articles concerning Mexico. The introduction contains some account of the oft-told ethnology of Mexico. Then follow chapters on the geography and geology, the condition and modes of life of the people, the vegetable and mineral products, the exploitation of the laboring classes, descriptions of the capital and other cities, the hunting and shooting facilities, chapters on education, religion, and civilization, railroads and commerce, and on government and administration. Finally the usual history of the country is taken up. The conquest of Cortez, the Mexican war, the French invasion, the administrations of Porfirio Diaz and Madero, United States intervention, and the present civil war are rehearsed. As a whole, the book gives a good idea of present conditions in Mexico.

## SOUTH AMERICA

**The Papers of the Stanford Expedition to Brazil in 1911.** J. C. Branner, Director. Vol. 1: 499 pp. Ills. Stanford University, Cal., 1914.  $10 \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ .

Under this title twenty papers, published in various scientific periodicals and treating of the geology, ichthyology, entomology and malacology of northeastern Brazil, are combined in one volume. The subject matter is based on explorations and collections made in 1911 by the Stanford University Expedition throughout the coast belt from Para to Pernambuco.

In the first paper, "The Fluting and Pitting of Granites in the Tropics" (*Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.*, No. 209, Vol. 52), Dr. J. C. Branner presents evi-

dence to show that the formation of grooves and associated caldron-like pits in coarse-grained crystalline rocks of tropical countries can be accounted for by the action of rain. Decomposing organic matter, which collects in the deeper pits, doubtless hastens the process. There is no evidence of glacial action.

“The Estancia Beds of Bahia, Sergipe and Alagoas, Brazil” (*Amer. Journ. of Sci.*, Vol. 35), by the same author, are shown to “cover large areas in the states of Bahia, Sergipe and the southern corner of Alagoas,” and to consist of sedimentary beds of marine and freshwater deposits. At certain points the series rests unconformably upon beds of probable Carboniferous age or against the Caboclo shales, presumably Devonian. A fossil fern (*Alethopteris branneri*) from the Estancia series and described by David White (same journal) indicates that the beds are Permian, though the evidence is not wholly conclusive.

The monotonous, low-lying sandy coast, characteristic of nearly the entire northeast coast of Brazil, and typified by the region about Natal, is described by Olaf P. Jenkins in a paper entitled “Geology of the Region about Natal, Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil” (*Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.*, Vol. 52). In this locality limestones (late Cretaceous or early Tertiary) rest upon probable Archæan crystalline rocks, and in turn are partially covered by unconformable sandstones and clays over which the trade winds pile sand dunes of great extent. Recent coastal subsidence has resulted in the formation of several good harbors, while the dunes, clogging the river mouths, have developed extensive lakes and fertile valleys.

Fishes collected from these lakes, and from tidepools and city markets, form the basis of a paper, “The Fishes of the Stanford Expedition to Brazil” by E. C. Starks (Stanford University Publications, 1913). Two hundred and thirty species are listed, of which 15 are new to science. Of the 13 entomological papers 11 appear in the 19th and 20th volumes of *Psyche*. These are concerned with ants, bees, various families of beetles, and a few neuropterid species. “Brazilian Ichneumonidae and Brachonidae, obtained by the Stanford Expedition” (*Ann. Entom. Soc. of Amer.*, Vol. 5), by C. T. Brues, contains the descriptions of thirty-two new species. “New Species of Lamellicorn Beetles” (*Ann. and Mag. of Nat. Hist.*, Ser. 8, Vol. 9), by G. J. Arrow, records eighteen new species. “Land and Fresh-water Mollusks of the Stanford Expedition to Brazil” (*Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila.*, Vol. 67), by Dr. Fred Baker, lists 113 species and subspecies, of which 43 are new. In the same journal Harold Heath describes “The Anatomy of Two Brazilian Land Shells, *Anostoma depressum* and *Tomigerus clausus*.,”

HAROLD HEATH.

**Voyage en Colombie (1911-1912).** Par Félix Serret. vii and 331 pp. H. Dunod & E. Pinat, Paris, 1912. Fr. 3.50. 7½ x 5.

A French account of a tour through Colombia, made in 1911-12. It is a simple narrative of the traveler's experiences. Starting from Panama, he landed at Buenaventura, the most important Colombian port on the Pacific. From there he went by rail to Cali, and then by river-boats and mule-back journeyed across the country to Cartagena and Santa Marta, where he embarked for his native land. He combats at length the statement of Oviedo, that a certain infectious malady, which each nation is fond of foisting upon the other, came to Europe from America with the sailors of Columbus; and maintains that it dates back to the early Hebrew Kings. He also denies the statement of Oviedo, that the banana was imported into the Western Hemisphere, and contends that it is an indigenous plant. The “English biscuit,” served with his coffee, and called “crackers,” tastes to him like chips of wood. The book is a pleasant example of the French tourist's style of writing.

**Peru: A Land of Contrasts.** By Millicent Todd. viii and 314 pp. Ills., index. Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1914. \$2. 8½ x 6.

An account of the geography, geology, ethnology, and religion of Peru by a woman and an artist, whose aim is to divine the true inwardness of the